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# The Almagest

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LSU in Shreveport

Volume 28, Number 01

# Budget woes put bind on higher education

By Heather Tuggle Features Editor

Although LSUS's budget has already been cut by \$250,000, university administrators expect an additional cut before the close of the semester.

"We're faced with the possibility of another major cut if the state doesn't find a way to handle budget shortfalls. We anticipate about \$230,000," Chancellor John Darling said. "This is not a happy time. The cuts are placing the university under enormous operating constraints."

Darling said part of the reason higher education in Louisiana is suffering is because the state attorney general is constantly fighting lawsuits against the state. Louisiana budgeted about \$35 million to handle the state's cases, but has already exceeded that amount by \$40 million.

"That \$40 million has to be made up and higher education is one of the two elements not protected. So when the state has a major shortfall, higher education gets a real hit," Darling said.

To account for the lack of state support, the university has cut lab and library hours and has raised tuition to a rate that Darling said is a "shame" due to the fact that it is "appreciably higher in terms of what students at other universities (outside of Louisiana) pay."

"We have tried to cut in nonclassroom areas... and have tried to maintain the integrity of the class and the lab," Darling said. "But, if something is not done soon, we will be forced to begin to eliminate some lowenrollment programs and the students will have fewer choices."

University officials said that quality in the classroom is their primary concern and that despite lack of sufficient funds, students will continue to get a comprehensive education. "We are doing everything possible to make sure the students are the last to suffer," said Dr. Ann McLaurin, Dean of the College See Budget P. 12.

#### The Wait Is Over

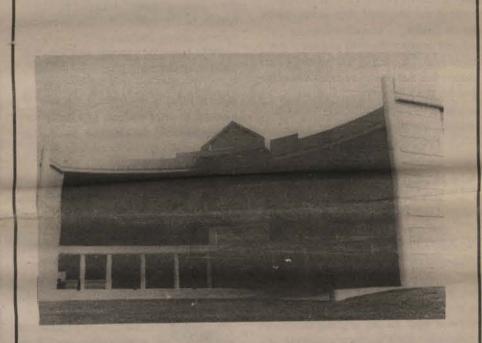


Photo by Jack McCune

The fall semester brought the long-awaited opening of the new Noel Memorial Library. The new building cost \$10.2 million and took two years to complete.

### Unexpected problems greet administration

By Darren Svan Associate Editor

As the LSUS Administration opens its doors to the fall semester, they are faced with some of the same old problems, as well as some new unexpected ones. Budget cuts, a four percent drop in enrollment, and faculty fears about losing certain accreditations, are what the LSUS administration faces this semester.

A comparison between the 93-94 budget to the 94-95 budget yields a

\$250,000 decrease in this year's budget. The money needed to fill vacant teaching positions is just not there.

"We have a good number of teaching positions available," said Dr. Gloria Raines, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. "We haven't filled the positions because we don't have the budget to afford it."

While the demands on today's college professors increase, the faculty and administration at LSUS have not received a increase in salary in four years. "Everybody is frustrated with the way our state finances higher education," Raines said. "There hasn't been any increases in operating or supply expenses."

According to Dr. Milton Finley, Faculty Senate President, Louisiana's public universities are funded by approximately 40 percent student tuition, while the average at some of the other universities around the country would be approximately 20-25 percent student funded.

"Standards will eventually drop if staffing and funding don't improve," Finley said.

Although enrollment was slightly down, stagnant enrollment figures don't entirely reflect the university's overall growth. Over the past 15 years the overall enrollment at LSUS has fluctuated between 4,000 and 4,500 students; enrollment this semester is approximately 4,363.

According to administration figures, fall enrollment is only down by 150 to 200 students. Business Administration has approximately 1,028 students;

See Administration P. 12.

### Darling refuses to enact Faculty Senate parking plan

By Drew White Almagest

LSUS Faculty Senate attempts to alter the school parking scheme have been rebuffed.

"The plan passed by the Faculty Senate was unworkable," said senate President Dr. Milton Finley. Finley cited potential problems with enforcement of the proposed plan as the reason for its failure. Chancellor Darling refused to enact the plan as passed for these reasons. While the Faculty Senate has the power to enact University policy, the Chancellor has what amounts to a veto capability in cases deemed unrealistic.

Faculty members raised the park-

ing question after finding facultyty spaces filled by students. Whilele the problem has eased somewhat wiwith increased enforcement, Senate m members felt something had to be done. As passed, the new plan would reseserve the first ten spaces on each row foror faculty parking. This plan would only affect the parking lots in front of of Bronson Hall and the Business as and Education building.

Several other plans were to considered before a bare quorum passessed the "unworkable" plan this summener. One plan would restrict access to fadaculty parking via a coded entry systemem similar to the system used currently at at LSU-Baton Rouge. Another would it have assigned spaces to faculty and st staff by name.

Many students fail to seece the need for a parking change designed it to benefit faculty and staff. The e overriding opinion among students is thatat inere is pienty of parking available for the University staff.

The fine for parking in a a staff spot is \$15. Many times this is not enough to deter students in a la hurry, or trying to avoid the elements.

# Faculty Senate to address staff, student questions and concerns

By Don McDaniel Almagest

The LSUS Faculty Senate will hold its first meeting of the 94-95 academic year Sept. 19, at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will be held, as will all future meetings, in the Louisiana room of the University Center.

Dr. Milton Finley, Faculty Senate President, said he would encourage students and the general public to attend and express their concerns and views about problems facing LSUS. Having students attend and express their concerns helps the faculty stay in touch with the student body, Finley said.

Some of the biggest concerns that the Senate faces are the downward

trend of enrollment and the budget. Enrollment is down four percent this semester and another budget cut is looming in the near future.

"We still want to attract the best and the brightest students but it gets harder every year," Finley said. "I don't know how much more budget cutting we can stand, after 15 budget cuts since 1982 there's not much left to cut."

Finley said the senators would welcome any plans of action or ideas that people feel may help, but with the way the budget is now his hands are tied.

"It's frustrating," Finley said, "but I and the other senators will continue to do the best we can considering the constraints we face."

### Student Activity fees explaineed

By Nikki Parker Almagest

You may not have paid 35 cents when you picked up this newspaper, but some of your money is going to the *Almagest*. Each semester, students pay an activity fee when paying for tuition. This fee is \$30 for students enrolled in one to five hours and \$45 for students enrolled in six or more hours. But most students have no idea where this money goes.

Veronica Burgess, a senior Biology major, admits she "has no idea" where the money raised from student activity fees goes. "Maybe ID cards. That's the only thing I know."

Money raised by activity fees keeps the University Center operable. The U.C. is run as an auxiliary, which means it receives no state funding. It must operate on its own and independent of the campus. The money for operation of the U.C. comes from student activity fees. Here, the money goes into six separate areas. Among these programs are Student Activities and the U.C. Building Service. Everything from toilet paper and light bulbs to custodian salaries to Fall Fest and Spring Fling are funded with money from student activity fees.

Money from student acactivity fees also goes to six other organizazations on campus including the Debate to program, Intramurals and the Student Ga Government Association.

Other fees students pay pay include an athletic fee and a registration fon fee. Each are \$10 and go to the basketbetball team and to payment for the new to telephone registration system.

By now you may be wwondering who decides where the moneyey goes. This is decided upon by a comcommittee of student representatives, Dr. Gr. Gloria Raines, Vice Chancellor of Aof Academic Affairs, and Karen Mischlich, Director of Student Activities.

There are many events sats scheduled this semester for students, but but according to Mischlich, students must sat pay to attend some of these activities ties to "offset the cost to bring more programs in."

An increase in the studdent activity fee is not something foreseemen in the near future. According to Dr. RainRaines, these fees will not be going up due due to the increase in tuition but "I wishwish they could." She feels the school does not charge enough and that the he campus does well with the me money it raises. If you went to a difficilifferent school, you could be paying any \$100 or more.

### Science has pet projects, robot

By Rachel Ginsburg Almagest

There are all kinds of new discoveries, inventions and personalities to become aware of when you enter the science building on our campus.

Dean Cook said the department is in the process of pursuing a masters program in Environmental Science. The first step is a letter of intent stating needs, resources, and the target audience. This letter goes to the campus authorities, Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Regents. Next is a full proposal looking for community support

Something else new to the sciences curriculum this semester is the 700-level course, Air and Water Quality with almost 20 students enrolled.

Another addition to the science department from Gary Boucher, (physics, electronics and computer science) is ROVAR, his 190-pound, walking, talking computer that has come to life this year. ROVAR (No, it's not a pet name; it stands for "roving observation vehicular automated robot.") was in storage until this past February when Boucher pulled it out of salvage and added electronics. ROVAR is complete with a TV camera for viewing. The control center is located in SC 125 where a micro-processor transmits information to the computer. ROVAR runs off 12-volt and 6-volt fully rechargeable batteries and "he keeps going and going and going," said Boucher.

Drs. Gossett, Lucas, and Banks are doing research work to investigate the



role of anti-oxidant enzymes in the salt stress response of plants. They are particularly interested in cotton and kenaf, a possible substitute for wood pulp but is used specifically because it grows fast and is similar to cotton.

This project has involved at least six undergraduate students in the last four years who have been able to publish their own works.

Tonya Czerniecki, a senior in biology, is also involved in the project. She is co-author of an article to be published in the Cotton Journal in April.

Funding for these projects comes from grants from Cotton, Incorporated and the American Heart Association-Louisiana, Incorporated. Also funding for ,equipment comes from the Louisiana Educational Quality Support Fund.

### Cafe Canteen to offer combo meals, new menu choices

By Shelly Cole Almagest

The Cafe Canteen, in an attempt to create a better image with students this semester, is offering some new choices.

In past semesters students have not had a very favorable opinion of LSUS's cafeteria. Students complain that prices are too high and it takes too long to get their food. Others complain that the Cafe doesn't offer much of a menu choice.

Curt Jeffrey, a senior journalism major, said, "It's overpriced, and you have to wait 15 minutes."

Mike Stringer, a sophomore premed assistant major, agreed that the Cafe is too expensive for the typical LSUS student and also complained that it doesn't offer much of a choice.

The Cafe Canteen's new manager, Diana Matthews, is hoping to solve some of these problems. Some new ideas Matthews plans to implement this semester include hot lunches and combo

Matthews said she ate at all the surrounding fast food restaurants to see what they offer students. Her idea is to become competitive with restaurants like Taco Bell and McDonald's.

Matthews is offering combo meals

at lower prices than other combos offered at surrounding restaurants. The Cafe offers a Turkey and Swiss croissant with chips and a regular size drink for \$2.99. This sandwich is twice the size of a McDonald's hamburger.

"We are trying to maintain low prices. We are not trying to gouge students," Matthews said. She feels that the combo meals are a good way to offer more for less.

Matthews said the Cafe will continue to serve past favorites such as hamburgers, their top seller, and pizza. They will try to reduce the amount of time it takes to serve the food.

A possibility in the near future, Matthews said, is to hire part-time student workers to help during the rush hours at 9 am and 12 pm.

Karen Mischlich, director of Student Activities, suggested the idea of meal plans utilizing the new student I. D.

For now, Matthews feels it isn't very probable. The cost of implementing the plan would most likely outweigh the benefits, she said.

Mischlich said the idea "has just been shared. They will not be able to make a decision for a while."

The Cafe Canteen is open 7:30 am

### Public radio KDAQ fall fund raiser scheduled Oct. 14 - 21

By Derek Johnson Almagest

KDAQ is gearing up its transmitters this fall for a Jazz and Blues festival and a fall fund-raiser.

The Jazz and Blues festival will be held Sept. 23 at 7:30 in the University Center.

Scheduled to perform at the festival are: Po' Henry & Tookie, Jessie Thomas & Dan Garner, The Ever Ready Gospel Singers, and Caskey &

KDAQ's fall Fund-Raiser, held Oct. 14 - 21, will be raising funds to meet next year's fiscal demands. KDAQ is a public radio station and relies totally on public funding.

Last fall, KDAQ raised about \$80,000 but General Manager Catherine Fraser hopes to raise more money this time around.

We need to raise at least \$80,000 just to keep the station running. I hope we can do better this time," Fraser said.

Barring technical problems, KDAQ has a better chance to break the \$80,000 mark set last fall.

The main attraction during the Fund Raiser will be the re-airing of the opera hit "The Three Tenors" which aired nationwide seven weeks ago in Los Angeles, California.

### College of Education Dean Byrd resigns, returns to teaching

By Elizabeth Johnson Almagest

This year, the University's budget took another hit in funding, and the

Dean of the College of Education couldn't take it anymore.

New Assistant Dean Dr. George Kemp said of the former dean, Ron Byrd, "He was a wonderful dean. He should be recognized for his achievements."



Byrd

"For six years Ron Byrd ran this department to the best of his abilities with a budget that just kept drying up."

After stepping down from the position this summer, Byrd returned to

His move out of an administrative position added yet another gap in the College's faculty staff. This year, the College of Education lost two of five deans, Byrd and Assistant Dean Dr. Barbara Decker.

Decker took a job as Dean of the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences at South Eastern Oklahoma State University. Kemp replaced Decker, and the dean's chair is still

Kemp said the position will be filled eventually, but not by him.

"I think it's just during an interim period until they can get somebody else, and I'm not interested in even being an interim dean."

The turnover in the College of Education is a major concern for the Administration. Next fall makes the five year mark since the College was last scrutinized by an accreditation board. During that review, the Department of Psychology received accreditation through 1998.

The College of Education, on the other hand, didn't have enough faculty to go around, the teacher education program was in bad shape, and funding was minimal.

The situation hasn't improved. Funding is still minimal, so to help, the Administration started cutting. Many of the College's perks, such as guest lecturers, scholarships, programs and travel money that allowed our faculty to make professional and often required presentations in other cities were cut. The Administration also cut out all vacant faculty positions.

Besides operating on a shoe string budget, now the College maintains even fewer faculty. All of these areas must improve by the fall review, or it could jeopardize the chances for continued accreditation.

Kemp had an explanation for most of the problems with the College of Education and the University in general-lack of funding.

He said, "We've held things together pretty well, but now it's to the point that it's really impossible to continue at this level. We're not supported enough by the state."

See Byrd, P.12

### Governor to dedicate new library

By Emilie Rachal Almagest

The newly built Noel Memorial Library opened August 22, just in time for the start of the semester.

The \$10.2 million structure that took two years to construct is as appealing to the eye as it is useful. Inside at the center is a circular staircase enclosed in glass and mirrors adding to what Dr. Laurene Zaporozhetz, dean of the library, called a "feeling of space" throughout.

Other eye catching features are the three restrooms, each decorated differently: rain forest decor, the LSUS colors of blue and gold, and the classic colors of black and white.

In addition to modern style, Zaporozhetz said the new library is more conducive for study than the old one. All 20,000 square feet are carpeted to absorb sound. Tables to seat 600 have been added as well. Students will also have access to a video room.

The long-awaited computerized card catalog will be working in mid-September, Zaporozhetz said. LOUIS, Louisiana Online University Information System, comprises the card catalogs of all state colleges and universities.

Zaporozhetz said her greatest expectation for the new library is that students will use it more. Staci Klotzbach, a senior psychology major, said she will use the library more because "its nicer."

Zaporozhetz also said she is encouraging teachers to assign more research assignments because of the importance of researching skills. A classroom on the second floor has been designated to teach students how to

The official grand opening of the Noel Memorial Library will be Sept. 19, at 11 a.m. Gov. Edwards will be in attendance for the dedication.

# Student I.D. cards computeerized to save time and money

By Wendy Byers Almagest

Although unpleasant, the long line for renewing student identification cards was well worth the wait. The student I.D. card system was changed in an effort to conserve both time and money.

In the past, new students have received a laminated card with a Polaroid picture on the front and a validation sticker on the back. Continuing students received new validation stickers each semester.

According to Karen Mischlich, Director of Student Activities, the estimated initial cost of the old I.D. was 79 cents per student. That cost included 62 cents for each Polaroid picture, 7 cents for the actual cardstock paper, 6 cents for the laminating pouch and 4 cents for the validation sticker. Each year an additional sticker was added to each continuing students card at a cost of 4 cents per student.

The new I.D. cards are issued with a barcode that links each one with the computer system used on campus. When scanned, the barcode wilfill validate a student's status, thus replacing the need for new stickers each semestister. The new cards are produced through a computer system that issues a laserer photo onto a non-laminated card.

Since Polaroids, papaper, lamination and stickers have been distiscarded, the costs of the new cards are significantly lower than their predecessors.

Mischlich estimated that at with initial costs of the new equipment required to produce the new cards inincluded, each card cost 20 cents.

Also, since the valididation stickers have been eliminated, the yearly costs of updating old I.D.s and requiring students to stand in yet another line are things of the past. Starting next semester, simply paying your fees will automatically update students' status through the barcode system.

Mischlich explained that the long lines induced by the transition were unfortunate but avoidabile. "It does take the computer a little while to produce the laser pictures. We posted signs up and told those in line that new



Photo By Jack McCi

Students endured long lines to receive their new computer generated Identification Cards.

I.D.s can be obtained all semester, but they insisted on standing in line."

A new student I.D. is required to check out library books, use the Health and Physical Educational building and to purchase tickets or sell back books in the bookstore. New I.D.s are made in the Student Center Mon-Thurs. from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. and between 8a.m. and 5 p.m. on Fridays. A fees paid sheet is required to be issued a card. Continuing students must also bring their old I.D. cards or charged \$5.00.

## Fall Rush entertains Greeks, new members

By Nikki Parker Almagest

With the beginning of the fall semester, many students look forward to rush. Rush is time when fraternities and sororities entertain prospective members and show them what Greek life is all about. Currently, there are four fraternities on campus. They are Alpha Phi Alpha(which will not participate in rush this fall), Delta Sigma Theta,

Sigma, and Tau Kappa Epsilon, which is still a colony. The three sororities on campus are Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Mu, and Zeta Tau Alpha.

Delta Sigma Theta does not participate in the fall rush schedule as do the other sororities. They hold deferred rush. Delta Sigma Theta must request membership intake from their national office and wait until they get approval. Then the chapteapter meets with prospective members and and has these girls fill out applications. The the chapter then chooses the girls it wishes hes to accept and sends their applications to the national office for approvioval. Ta-Tanisha Youngblood, president of of Delta Sigma Theta said the sorority "sh" should be pretty visible this year."

Greek life has a lot lot to offer students. Mike Maston of Kd Kappa Sigma said Greek organizations ans are "the most active organizations on car campus." Each year, Kappa Sigma holds ads a See-Saw-A-Thon for charity. Most rest recently, the chapter donated proceeds the from this event to family of a slain pin police officer.

Greek life also offers brs lifelong friendships, promotes leadeadership, and is good for the visibility of the school. Bridgette Wilder of Phi Mu Mu said the presence of Greeks at LSULSUS "makes it a real campus."



#### Box office bombs this summer

By Morris Crichlow Almagest

Arnold Schwarzenneger's retort, aimed at easing his wife's repulsion to his deadly deeds, describes most of this summer's movies — "they were all bad." They offered (some) good performances and (some) good scenes, but (all) fell short of their advertising hype and, in some cases, the most reasonable of low-brow expectations.

The Shadow ...

The hype: Alec Baldwin finally reaching megastar status.

The letdown: Not with this movie. This megastar's previous performances (Miami Blues, The Getaway, and Glengarry, Glen Ross) overshadow this cartoon who relies on special effects, rather than acting, to convey his emotions.

Saving graces: Witty reparte between the Shadow and his Khanicly-serious adversary, some impressive special effects, and Penelope Ann Miller. Blown Away...

The hype: Tommy Lee Jones.

The letdown: His worst performance in at least two years, with the same foreboding facade boasted by Sean Connery in Highlander 2.

Saving graces: Jeff Bridges, Forest

Whitaker, a good script, and paranoiac photography.

Wolf ...

The hype: A new classic of the horror genre.

The letdown: A script written for a foresightless audience, FX courtesy of The "Six Million Dollar Man," and a score engineered by a ten year old with a synthesizer.

Saving graces: Jack Nicholson and Michelle Pfeifer, whose remarkable talent can't buoy a boat with this many holes.

True Lies...

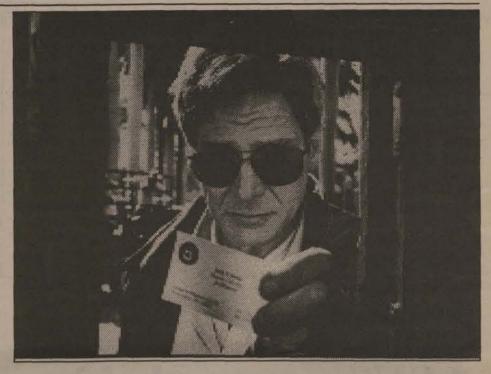
The hype: Another Terminatorish tornado of intensity from its director and star.

The letdown: Intensity???
Saving graces: Comic arrogance from the funny Arnolds (Tom and Schwarzenneger) and pathetic pandering by Bill Paxton that fill the screen with Maverick mayhem and Harrier hilarity. On the whole, a saving grace for the summer which answers the question, What would Commando look like with a 100+ million dollar budget?

Clear And Present Danger...

The hype: A new techno-thriller by Tom Clancy.

The letdown: A new techno-thriller that Tom Clancy would never write.



Harrison Ford stars as the CIA's Jack Ryan in Clear and Present Danger. The screenplay was based on the novel by Tom Clancy.

Adaptation to the screen turns a principled family man into a mercenary, a light infantryman into a Green Beret sniper (regular men risking their lives apparently pleases no one in Hollywood), and a story about the loyalty of soldiers into a story about corrupt politicians in Washington.

Saving graces: The best action scene this year and an overall good movie for anyone who didn't read the book it resembles so very vaguely. This so-so summer follows a notso-fantastic spring, producing in toto so few movies worth seeing that you could count them with one hand and two feet tied behind your back. Now, Oliver Stone's Natural Born Killers, a hybrid cross between the styles of Peter Greenaway and John McNaughton, gives us new hope that the studios will release quality films they have held back for a better chance at Oscar contention.

# Stone's Natural Born Killers entertains, stimulates senses

By Geoff Johnston Almagest

It finally happened. All the hallucinogenic drugs that director Oliver Stone took in the 60's have come back to kick him in the proverbial pants and we, the average American movie-goer must suffer the after effects through his latest film, Natural Born Killers.

The film chronicles the Bonnie and Clyde-like antics of fictitious mass murderers Mickey and Mallory Knox, played by the always adorable Woody Harrelson and the queen of incoherent mumbling, Juliette Lewis.

In between flashbacks and fits of unprotected sex, Mickey and Mallory sail through America on a bloody killing spree, gain worldwide recognition as modern day folk heroes, wind up incarcerated, initiate a prison riot, and at the end, fulfill one of my own personal fantasies by shooting Robert Downey, Jr. in the head and chest.

Along with clever (yet annoying) film editing, Stone utilizes Super-8, 16-mm, black and white, Technicolor, rearprojection plates, and animation techniques to add even more confusion to the non-cohesive plot and the film's disorienting swirl of activity.

Reminiscent of Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me in its abundance of graphic violence, shallow characters, and meaningless dialogue; Natural Born Killers is a visual masterpiece leaving the audience with vivid images rather than substantial messages.

Harrelson and Lewis aren't very convincing as the trailer park trash turned serial killers, mostly due to Director Stone's attention on creating a hellish visual acid trip montage rather than establishing a concrete plot and believable characters.

But what Natural Born Killers loses in its limp story line and verbal fluff for dialogue, it makes up for in its ability to entertain and stimulate the senses. Watching Natural Born Killers is like being hit in the face with a bloody-soaked, psychedelic mallet. Stone's trippy use of stock footage, animation, and colors makes for a disturbingly intense ride through three hours of otherwise hopeless, cinematic garbage.

But, I still can't get over the idea of Woody Harrelson as a psychopath. What's next? Don Knotts in The Jeffrey Dahmer Story?

# ISUS Jazz & Blues Festival

Friday, Sept. 23 7:30 p.m. LSUS Theater

Po' Henry & Tookie
Jessie Thomas & Dan Garner
The Ever Ready Gospel
Singers
Caskey & Howell

For more information, contact Student Activities at 797-5348 or KDAQ at 797-5150 Alexis Alexander

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# Almagest

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#### **Another View**

# LSUS must uphold quality education

The question is why is Bossier Parish Community College's enrollment up while ours is down? Lower tuition might be your first response, but the problem seems to be much more complicated. While it's clear that B.P.C.C. offers students lower tuition, our ace in the hole has always been a higher quality of education.

The next logical question is what happens to LSUS if the quality of education begins to drop off? Well, it's time to heed the cries of Professors like former Education Dean, Ronald Byrd. Although it might appear at first that Byrd is trying to grab some headlines, his fears are real. In a age where issues and people are tried in the media, Byrd felt that his only option was to try and shake things up by openly resigning over a conflict.

The conflict is over vacant teaching positions in the Education Department. Byrd claims the administration has permanently eliminated four positions, which are vital to their accreditation review. The administration said that those positions are not lost, they just weren't shown in the budget because they presently don't have the money to fill those positions.

Something doesn't quite add up. We

have heard for years about lower enrollment figures, and also how the state is butchering our budget. If all that's true, where's the money going to come from next year to fill those positions if we don't have the money this year?

Maybe the administration has a master plan for a stronger recruiting year, or maybe there is a secret fund which will bail the college of education out next year. Let's hope so.

There is one thing that both administrators and faculty will agree on, accreditation is vital to this university. Financial aid money and transferability of credits are two of the most important results of accreditation.

It's obvious that if one of the strongest attributes at LSUS is a high quality of education. Consequently, it should be a top priority when building a budget.

New buildings and meticulous grounds are all very nice, but if the quality of education has to suffer because of it, then our vote goes to a raise for faculty and some new teachers in the Education Department.

#### LETTERS POLICY

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class (freshman, etc.) and yur major field of study. They should be turned into the Almagest office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceeding the publication date. Obscene, libelous, and anonymous letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit all letters.



# Why the fuss over banning assault weapons - it's our right

By Chuck Phillips Almagest

I had never really been concerned with owning an assault weapon until our esteemed President and her husband decided that I am not responsible enough to use one properly. As a hunter, I have to admit that my shooting skills are not exactly comparable to those of Annie Oakley. As a matter of fact, I can't even hit a cow at two feet with a shotgun. The very thought of deer hunting with an AR-15 sends chills up my spine. Why then is there such a fuss over banning these types of weapons?

Perhaps the fuss comes because a basic right promised to Americans by the Constitution has been violated. Everyone knows the one I am talking about, the right to keep and bear arms. Granted, when the Constitution was written, the authors had no way of knowing that muskets would evolve into the arms we know today as "Assault Weapons." But even if they had known that weapon advancement would be in the near future, do you honestly think that they would have voted to allow weapons to be outlawed? What would have happened if private ownership of weapons had been abolished by King George for the people of the Colonies? Better yet, how would you guess that the outcome of the American Revolution would have been had the Colonies been forced to fight with outdated weapons againnnst the well-armed British forces? Just think about the Persian Gulf War. Did Iraq fair well with their substandard weaponry? Not quite.

Now, I am not suggesting that if Bubba owns an AK-47 that all will be right with the world, but I want to emphasize the point that our forefathers made with the right to bear arms. That point was not to give the people a right to have a .50 caliber Kentucky Long Rifle with which to hunt squirrel, but to give people the ability to defend their country against invaders, both foreign and domestic.

I readily agree that criminals should loose their rights to own weapons and that if a crime is committed with a weapon, the sentence should be stiff and carried out promptly. What I cannot agree with is the manner in which bi private ownership of weapons had been abolished by King George for the people of the Colonies? Better yet, how would you guess that the outcome of the American Revolution would have been had the Colonies been forced to fight with outdated weapons agaagag government is continually coming into the lives of private citizens in an effort to further the power of an elite few. Under the premise of "cutting crime,"

Under the premise of "cutting crime," the United States Government has just banned certain weapons. This ban follows on the heels of another law that requires a background check for handgun purchases. Add to this the fact that an administration elected with only 48 percent of the vote is attempting to force people to abide by a specific health care plan in which they tell health professionals how much money they can make, and what do you get? Trouble.

If you are wondering how i can be so sure of my belief, just study a little history. Russia under Lenin and again under Stalin did very much the same thing. It failed, and cost the lives of millions of people. Let's not allow that to happen to America. We have come too far to throw it all away in an effort to create Utopia.

My only concern is that I am having trouble finding a gunracgun rack for my

### Able-bodied individuals need to use the stairs

Welcome back, kids. I hope you had a festive summer. I spent most of the summer looking for a job in Orlando , FL, But I'll spare you the gory details. Suffice it to say that after 1.5 months of fruitless searching, I came home and found two jobs in one week. Go figure.

So, now we're back in the Hallowed Halls of Academia, scuttling to and fro (mostly fro, in my case), and something has been gnawing at me for the past three weeks. Something so important and vexing that the recent passage of the appropriately titled "Crime" Bill (appropriate because it's a crime that it passed) pales in comparison. So irritating is this subject that it prompts me to actually grouse and complain about it, rather than offer my usual insightful commentary.

GROUSE MODE ON.

Recently, I was coming down from the fourth floor of Bronson hall, and as is my custom, I took the elevator. I confess: I'm lazy. Going either up or down three flights of stairs is really far more effort than I care to put out to get from one class to the other. However, on my way down to the first floor, I was shocked to feel the elevator stopping on the SECOND floor. This is an unusual occurrence, but given that we have a number of (insert politically correct term for handicapped) students on campus, not completely unlikely. Thus I prepared to make room for the wheel-chair or crutches as appropriate.

Imagine my surprise, however, when a healthy-looking, able-bodied, slightly middle-aged woman in a tasteful dress stepped on the elevator. Thinking that, surely, no one is too lazy to go down just one flight of stairs, I looked out of the elevator to see if there was a handicapped student that possibly needed some help. There was none. The able-bodied woman in question jauntily pushed the button for the first floor (to close the doors quicker — a trick of which many students and faculty seem to be unaware), and down we went.

I watched her as she left the building. She didn't limp. She didn't seem to be in pain from possible back (or other) troubles. The heels on her high-heeled pumps didn't seem abnormally tall. In short, I could find no legitimate reason for this woman to have avoided going down one flight of stairs.

But wait! There's more!

This isn't just an isolated instance. I've noticed a bunch of otherwise capable individuals going up or down one floor by taking the elevator. Now, again as I mentioned previously, I have a lazy streak, and I can thus understand taking the elevator from the first floor to the fourth floor, or vice versa. I can even understand going from Floor 1 to Floor 3, or from Floor 2 to Floor 4, via the elevator. But ONE (insert vulgar exclamation here) floor?!?!? Give me a break.

This practice is not only annoying, but is also extremely inconsiderate. As mentioned, we have a number of handicapped students on campus. These individuals have no choice BUT to use the elevators. Unlike us able-bodied folk, who can use the stairs in a pinch, our less able fellow students depend on the

availability of the elevators to get to class in a timely manner. And if we (or you, since I wouldn't be caught dead taking the elevator up or down one floor) insist on using the elevator in trivial ways, it makes it more difficult for those who cannot take the stairs.

So the next time you find yourself preparing to ride the elevator up or down one floor, think of those who absolutely require the elevator to get to class. Then think of my sanity, since I have to resist the ure to say something sarcastic every time I hear an able-bodied individual ask me to push the "2" button when we're only on the first floor. And then haul your lazy backside up or down the one flight of stairs. If I can do it, lazy as i am, so can you.

### Learn what being racist means

By Shelly Cole Almagest

Recently I was asked if I would date a black man; I'm white. The question was meant as a joke, but I didn't know that. My answer in simple terms was "why not?". The reaction that followed made me feel as if I had to defend myself for NOT being a racist.

My peer could not believe I would do such a thing. He said it "turned him off"; he was disgusted literally.

I found myself defending my response. Why? Because this person is obviously so out of touch, he needs a formal education in what being racist actually is.

racism - "social action...based upon ...racial differences having no scientific validity." Funk & Wagnalls Standard Desk Dictionary, Volume 2, 1979

I had to explain that if I found a black man attractive, intelligent, genuine, and interesting, I might go out with him. These are the same characteristics I look for in a white man.

Yes, I did say "might go out with him". Theoretically, I don't care about color as long as there is mutual attraction. In reality, the "might" is because of social consequences. Life long friends would snub me, my typical Southern Baptist/Roman Catholic family probably would not speak to me or at least not without disgust, and people on the street, in the malls, and in the clubs would stare while trying to make it look as if they weren't staring.

I know what I'm talking about. You don't even have to be dating someone of another race to be stared at; you just have to be seen with them.

I have a very good female friend who is black. She is intelligent and a lot of fun. When we go out together, people accuse me of trying to be/act "black" and accuse her of trying to be/act "white". We never put on a different image when we are together. We act the same as we do at any other time with any other person. People only think of us as a threat. We are a threat to the pure races.

I personally don't believe there is any pure race in America to begin with. Second, anyone of any "pure" race who is prejudice isn't so pure after all.

People, if you want to cool some of the racial heat, start by throwing some ice down your own shirt.

Learn what being racist really means.

# The New Fall Season brings new programs

By Stephen Sochotsky Guest Columnist

As the product of a late disco/polyester leisure suit era Louisiana secondary public education, I find it very difficult to be politically correct. However, I'll try.

One of the times of year that I looked forward to was The New Fall Season (which may explain my GPA). Television has held a powerful hold over me since my first viewing experience of The New Fall Season (JFK's funeral procession in '63). This may go a long way in explaining my psyche.

My suggestions for a The New Fall Season: a new X-Man character, Homophobic-Man. He is a senator by day and a one-fisted, nine-inch finger nails through the back of the hand, liberal agenda slashing, Monte Blancwielding super hero by night.

If for some reason Saturday

morning cartoons aren't your bag, how about "Hillary's World?" She is a New Age woman who is the real power behind a slobbish, slightly over-weight, work-at-home spouse (significant other for the P.C.) who is in constant search of a beer and a foreign policy.

If you use prime-time for studying, yea, right, maybe PBS (Pretty Boring Stuff) is more to your liking. How about, "Louisiana: The State of Confusion We're In?" It is an in-depth documentary on how one state can totally destroy an educational system and still out rank Mississippi.

Well, that's my New Fall Season, pleasant viewing.

The views expressed are the authors and are usually a result of sleep deprivation, whining kids, and a non-romantically inclined significant other. The grammatical errors are the result of the aforementioned education.

### Fall enrollment down over four percent

By Matt Tuggle Almagest

LSUS enrollment is down over four percent this semester according to the Registrar and Director of Admissions Kathy Plante. The other schools in the LSU system are also experiencing a

decrease in enrollment.
According to Plante,
the decrease is caused
by a natiwide reduction in the number of
graduating high school
students who meet the
University's admission
standards



Plante

Stricter admission standards have been enacted for freshmen coming to LSUS. The new standards require incoming freshmen to make at least an 18 on the ACT and graduate from high school with at least a 2.3 GPA. But according to Plante the new requirements are not the main reason enrollment is down.

"Other things had more to do with it," said Plante, "mainly the three newest industries in town the casinos." Plante says many former students who are making good money at the casinos have not given much thought to going back to school.

"They make good money, but it's not a career," Plante said. According to Plante students will return to LSUS to persue a degree.

### Russian calls LSUS, Shreveport home

By Heather Tuggle Almagest

In 1992, Irina Istomina Gibson came to the United States from Russia. Armed with only a Russian-English dictionary and a few material possessions, Gibson had no idea that two years later she would be teaching college students to speak her native language.

Gibson said that while living in Russia she always wanted to travel, but was not sure if she would have the opportunity.

"I was born in Sverdlovsk, which was 95 percent military plants. Home was kind of like a prison," she said. "I love to travel and meet new people, but I could not do that in Russia, so I dreamed. Now I am here."

The fall semester is Gibson's first year as a foreign language instructor at LSUS. Before moving to America, She studied English at Russia's first Christian college and researched new methods of education. Despite her

extensive background, Gibson said her first few months in Shreveport were not easy.

"I came to Shreveport because some friends invited me to live with them in the USA and study," said Gibson. "It was not easy at first. The dog of the people I was staying with ate my dictionary and I had no way to understand what anyone was saying to me. I had no one to speak to so I would talk to the plants and the flowers and write home a lot, "she said.

Although she felt alone upon coming to America, Gibson's uneasiness did not last for long. In July 1993, she was invited to attend a party where she met her future husband.

"I was invited to an Exchange Club party at John Gibson's house and when I saw him I got so excited. He had kind eyes and he looked happy like a Russian man. He was very generous. When I got home I wrote my parents and I told them all about John," Gibson said. "He looked at me and I knew I would marry

him. It was love at first sight."

Gibson was married last March and although she misses her family, she now calls Shreveport home. "This is like a second life for me - it's a new life," Gibson said. "I am very happy here."

But, there are some aspects of American culture Gibson still finds strange. "The food here is too spicy, and no one in America drinks hot tea," Gibson said. "People here drink water with ice cubes in it and I sometimes see people eating the ice. I tried it once and my throat was sore for days."

Gibson said that her first experiences in the United States and with English have not only helped her to become familiar with American culture but have also given her an appreciation for her student's confusion with Russian.

"I understand that it is not easy to learn another language, and I think students learn the most when I use the active method of instruction," said Gibson. "I teach them with videos and with Russian souvenirs. We concentrate on learning the language, but I also want to teach them some Russian history and culture."

"I don't want students to be afraid to ask questions. I want them to speak and I don't want them to be upset if they don't know the right words,

# "End of the World"

Sept. 29 - 30

Fall Fest

### University Court begins strong second year

By Danielle Culliton Almagest

With the start of the 94 - 95 school year the University Court Apartments are now in their second year.

Lori Harleson, manager of the apartments, feels very good about the way things have started off.

"I've been extremely pleased with our student population this year. I've been impressed with the dedication to academics and diversity of the community," she said.

Many changes have come about with the start of the new year. The minority population has increased, as well as the number of athletes and medical students.

Another change is the division of the complex into two areas. One side houses freshmen and students who want a more "active" lifestyle. The other side is for older, more settled students who like things a little more quiet.

The complex at this time has had an increase in faculty, and staff too. The increase has also been seen by the thirty-five percent renewel of student leases. Due to these renewels the apartments are offering a variety of floor plans. In addition to the four bedroom apartments, and efficency apartments; a new foor plan has been created to better serve the students.

Some of the four bedroom apart-

ments were converted into two bedrooms suites with a spare room for both individuals.

Another change is how the Community Assistants (CA) are handling things. They make regular rounds till 1 am on the weekend. According to CA Jason Jimes, "We've got a handle on things this year and things are going a lot more smoothly."

The CA's work in teams now, of at least two and when they receive word of trouble they can be there within ten seconds of the call. The CA's feel they have better communication between each other and also between the upper management and the residents.

After some of the trouble the

apartments had last year, everyone wondered what this year would bring. "We expected trouble the first week, and so far there has not been any," said Theresa Pipes, CA. The staff has done a lot of educating and everybody knows what we're trying to accomplish," said Harleson.

"I would say our goal is to provide a high quality student housing community where young adults are able to establish independence," said Harleson. At this time everything seems to be going well and the staff is looking forward to a good year.

### Rensink fired this summer amid controversy

The semester began on a controversial note as a shakeup in the student activities office causeed major changes in the Dept. of Intramural Sports.

In a decision effective July 7, Student Activities Director Karen Mischlich fired Kurt Rensink from his \$26,000 a year position as asst. director, a position he had held for the past six and a half years. His duties inculded direction of the intramural sports department, which became a major point of contention between them.

According to Rensink, near the end of the spring semester, Mischlich informed him that he would have to fire his assistants, Bill Wood and Kristi Speir, due to insufficient student activities funds. Rensink offered another potential source of funds, but Mischlich told him those funds were not available. The two were also in disagreement over

the number of officials required to run flag football. Rensink believes less than four officials will result not only in missed calls, but in a greater risk of injury to players.

"The quarterbacks will be in big trouble if there's no one keeping an eye on the pass rush," he explained. Mischlich agreeed that under ideal conditions four officials would be better, but said there are not enough funds to pay four officials. Because several of the officials are also players, there could be games run with as few as two officials.

Despite their differences, Rensink was completely shocked when Mischlich handed him his termination papers, he said

"I was offered the opportunity to resign, but saw no reason to do so. So I was fired," Rensink said. He felt he was treated unfairly, never being given a chance to correct any mistakes he may have made, or what he felt was a legitimate reason for his dismissal. Asked about the reason for her decision, Mischlich responded by saying: "It was basically a personnel issue."

She said that a common misconception about the assistant director's position is that its only responsibility is to run intramural sports. She feels a great deal of student potential is being left untapped, and that a new assistant director is the best route to a solution.

To that end, a six - person committee has been formed to sift through the over forty applicants for the position. After checking references and setting up interviews with finalists, their top three choices will be sent to Mischlich for one - on - one interviews. Until a new assistant director is hired, Mischlich will be filling both positions. She said there is no

definitive time period as to when a hiring will take place, and that it will depend mainly on how quickly the committee moves.

And what does the future hold for Rensink? He said he and his wife love the Shreveport - Bossier area and have no plans to leave. He has worked in restaurant management, human resources, and as a teacher, and said any of these are still an option for him. He also will continue as a student here, because he loves working with the student body. Rensink is even considering a run for the SGA Senate later this semester. He said he will always miss his old job, but now must put this incident behind him. He has his own theory about why he was fired:

"She says it's a personnel issue but I think it was personal," he said.

# Gym silent as wait for floor continues

By Clint Land Almagest

The gymnasium in the Health and Physical Education building is silent while the University awaits the installation of its already approved maplewood floor. The state funded floor is needed for intramural sports, physical education classes and the mens and womens basketball programs.

The new floor will cost between \$90,000 and \$105,000 to build. The state allocated \$230,000 for the construction. The remaining funds will go toward new suspended goals as well as retractable bleachers.

Construction will begin when funds are released from the state's

Facility Planning and Control center. Once the job is bid and contracted by a private company it should take no longer than 135 days to complete. Athletic Director Larry Rambin has hopes of having the gym fully operational as soon as possible, perhaps as early as January 15.

Once installed, the floor will last indefinitely with only moderate upkeep. Meanwhile, the physical education classes that need the gym have to meet off campus and the Pilot basketball teams will begin their season practicing and playing in area high school gyms.

"In the long run the new floor will be worth the wait," said Rambin. "Some schools have been skeptical about playing us in the past due to the condition of the current gym floor. With the new floor in place everyone

who uses the facility will bene-

# Shreveport Pirates

College Night
Sept. 24

LSUS Student Special Arby's Arby-Q Sandwich

Only 99 and Arby-Q Sandwich

7803 Youree Drive

Buy up to 6. Not valid with any other offer. Exp.9/30/94

### CAMPUS BRIEFS

#### **EVENTS AND REMINDERS**

SEED, the annual LSUS career day and job fair will be held on Tues., Sept. 20 from 9 am until noon in the University Center Ballroom. Seniors who would like to have their resume distributed to every employer attending, must bring a camera ready copy to the Career Center, ADM 230, before 5 pm Wed., Sept. 14. Anyone needing help with their resumes can find samples in the Career Center. Additionally, there will also be workshops about resume writing on Thur., Sept. 8 at 12:45 in BE 104 and on Wed., Sept. 14 at noon in BH 108. For further information students can contact the Career Center, ADM 230 or call 797-5062.

The Assistant Director of
Admissions from the Tulane University
Law School il be on campus Wed. Sept.
21, to talk with students interested in
exploring law school. Ms. Cici
Anderson will be on the first floor of
the University Center between 10 am
and noon on Sept. 21.

The Baptist Student Union will hold its state conference in Alexandria Sept. 23-25. Registration is \$5 which includes Saturday meals. Rooms are \$14 a night and transportation is provided. The conference features Doug Burkey, a mime from South Carolina. Music will be provided by Chuck Bently of Nashville

STEMS, is a way for students to make money. The Student Temporary Employment Matching System lets potential employers know about students interested in doing occasional jobs such as tutoring, child care, yard work, elder care, driving, or word processing. Students wanting to be referred to occasional jobs need to sign up each semester in the LSUS Career Center, ADM 230.

The fourth annual JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL will be held Fri., Sept. 23, at 7:30 pm, in the UC theater. Ticket prices are \$4 for LSUS students, \$6 faculty and staff, and \$8 for the general public. The event will feature Jesse Thomas, Po' Henry & Tookie, and the Ever Ready Gospel Singers. Also, Jesse Thomas & Dan Garner will be performing during the common hour Tues., Sept. 20, at the University Center first floor lobby. If you have any questions please call Karen Mischlich at 797-5348 or Mary Masters at 797-5150.

#### LSUS CALENDAR

Tues., Sept. 13, Colleague's Welcome Back Reception, 10:30 am, A&B Ballroom... Final day to drop courses or resign without receiving grade of W.

Thurs., Sept. 15., Final day to drop courses or resign and receive 40 percent refund.

Fri., Sept. 16, Deadline for declaring candidacy for SGA fall elections. For more information contact Kevin at 797-5342.

Sat., Sept. 17 and Sun., Sept. 18, SAB Leadership Retreat. Contact SAB for more information at 798-4104.

Mon., Sept. 19 thru Wed., Sept. 21, 9:00am- 2:00pm, Blood Drive, UC

lobby.

Mon., Sept. 19 thru Oct. 14, Faculty Art Showing, UC Art Gallery.

Sat., Sept. 24, 11:00 am, Colleague's picnic in the park, Betty Virginia Park.

Sat., Sept. 24, 7:30 pm, College night at the Shreveport Pirates! Tickets only \$5

#### **NEWS**

Applications are now being accepted for Student Ambassadors to serve during the 1995 spring, summer and fall semesters. Pick up applications in the Office of Admissions and Records, ADM 168, and the Student Activities Office, UC 232. Completed applications must be returned to ADM 168 by Nov. 1. Faculty and staff members are also encouraged to nominate strong students who are suitable for Ambassador appointment. For more information, contact Kathy Plante at 797-5249.

LSUS designer license plates available: The plates cost \$26 every two years plus regular registration fees. You can reserve a specially numbered LSUS plate by calling Phyllis Graham, Director of LSUS Alumni Affairs, at 797-5168. Or order your plate by contacting the Prestige Plate Unit of the Office of Motor Vehicles, P.O. Box 64886, Baton Rouge, La. 70896-4886, or call (504) 925-6364.

The BSU meets Wednesdays at noon for lunch and devotion. \$1 donation. Devotion at 8:30, Univ. Court apt. 1312.

### Many jobs available for students

By Danielle Culliton Almagest

There is a program for available jobs in Shreveport that many students are probably unaware of. The U.S. Department of Education has had a grant in effect for two years now, which provides an opportunity for internship and service.

Dr. William Mitchell, Executive
Director of the Shreveport Urban
Services Consortium, said that the program now has more employers than students. Employers such as small businesses, the Bossier Chamber of
Commerce and the Minority Business
Council have been recruited. The dead-line for businesses to participate in this
program was August 25th, but the registration cards keep coming in.

It seems students have not really shown a great interest though.

According to Dr. Mitchell, there were over 30 applications fins ffrom students over the summer, but there have only been 20 so far this fall. Students can earn \$5 an hour, three hours of college credit,( the course is University 200, check the fall schedule), and get job experience at a loclocal Shreveport business. These jobs are available to all sophomore, junior, senior level students with a GPA of 2.2 or better.

All applicants are assigned a number, like a draft. When their number

See Student jobs, p. 12

### Ambassadors looking for a few good students

By David Raiford Almagest

LSUS is in need of a few good students to promote the University. The Office of Admissions and Records is now accepting applications from continuing students who would like to add to their academic experience and share with possible future students the many benefits of attending LSUS.

The Ambassador program, now in it's seventh year, offers the opportunity for those who are attending LSUS to meet with prospective students and members of the community and give them an insight as to what student life is

really like, something that pamphlets and brochures can never fully express. Those who are chosen to participate attend on and off campus functions on behalf of the student body.

According to Kathy Plante,
Registrar and Director of Admissions,
the students that are in the program,
"learn everything there is to know about
LSUS." According to Plante, the program gives those who participate the
opportunity to network in the community and develop contacts that might be
helpful after graduation. The contact
that the Ambassadors have with the
community offers the participants the
opportunity to refine presentation skills

and receive valuable hands-on experience in dealing with the public, something that is a plus on a future resume.

Student Ambassadors are contracted for one year, running from January to December, and are paid an hourly wage. The work involves 7 to 10 hours of the students time per week, and does require some evening hours.

Requirements for those who participate include, maintaining a 2.0 grade point average and the ability to communicate

well as a positive attitude.

The program is usually staffed with four students, however due to

with good verbal and written skills as

recent graduations and student transfers there is only one student participating. Anyone interested in applying can pick-up an application at the Office of Admissions and Records located in the Administration building in room 168. Applications will be accepted until November 1, 1994.

The Ambassadors will be chosen by faculty members as well as members of the school information services office. Interviews for the positions will take place after the week of final examinations.

# The ABC's of University Court



# Free CD!

The first 100 students who tour University Court will receive a certificate for a free CD.\*



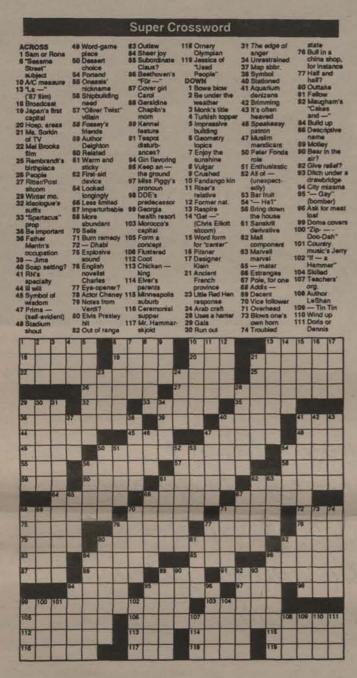
The suite life!
University Court is now offering
students the option of a two bedroom
suite. Each student gets a private
bedroom, private bath, and an extra
room they can use as a study.



Unhappy with your present living situation? It's not too late to make your move to University Court, stop in and see us, we can help.

University Court Apartments, Open for tours daily
Mon-Fri 8:30-7:00
Sat-Sun 1:00-5:00
797-8588

\*Current student, non-resident or applicant.



### Byrd

Continued from P. 3.

"The state has taken away promised money 16 times now. Since 1992, state funding has decreased from 82 percent to 55 percent which means tuition increases. Instead of decreasing as in other states, our tuition has increased to support the University by 43 percent."

To date, there's nothing to turn the situation around.

### Student jobs

Continued from P. 10 comes up, they get to choose from the remaining jobs in the job pool.

"We want to put the students in small businesses, because small businesses are the economic basis of Shreveport. So we would like students to have opportunity to work in a small business while they're school preparing for a career," Dr. Mitchell said.

The purpose of these jobs is to teach students what to expect, to prepare themselves for work after gradation, and to learn of various ways to use acquired skills.

The purpose of this program is to have students better prepared for the kinds of jobs that exist is Shreveport, and to help businesses in Shreveport who normally could not afford an intern. Mitchell hopes students will gain experience through this opportunity. For more information, see Dr. Mitchell in BH 429.

### Administration

Continued from P. 1.

Education has about 1,134 students;
Liberal Arts has approximately 883
students and the Science Department has
1,318 students. "Although we did have
a four percent drop, keep in mid we
have over a 1,000 new students
enrolling this semester," Raines said.

"I'm never happy with a drop in enrollment, but I don't think there is anything to worry about," she said.

The financial pinch has begun to put the squeeze on certain LSUS departments. According to former Education Dean Ronald Byrd, Chancellor Darling eliminated four full-time positions in the Education Department vacated by professors.

Byrd, last month, stepped down from his position and returned to teaching in the Physical Education Department.

"I didn't step down only because I fear we will lose our accreditation," Byrd said. "It was a vote of no confidence in the Chancellor. I want to pressure him into doing something."

According to Byrd, what the chancellor is doing will cause the Education Department to lose their accreditation. The department comes up for review next fall by the National Council on

Accreditations of Teacher Education.

"His priorities lie elsewhere," Byrd said. "It's poor planning and poor administration."

Byrd's resignation came as no surprise to Dr. Raines, "he had already decided to step down back in the summer. It just got blown out of proportion; it wasn't that he quit over the NCATE accreditation."

Unlike previous budgets, this year, the Vice Chancellors built the budget around the realization that vacant teaching positions could not be filled so they would not budget, nor list them in the new budget.

"The faculty perceived they had lost those positions forever," Raines said. "When it's time for the accreditation we will do whatever it takes to keep the NCATE's stamp of approval."

"They haven't lost anything," she said. "The college of Education is doing an excellent job training future teachers, They have always done a excellent job and we have the test scores to prove it. Students don't have to worry about majoring in education, the program is secure and we have the test scores to prove it. Students don't have to worry about majoring in education, the program is secure and it will stay that way."

### **Budget**

Continued from P. 1. of Liberal Arts.

McLaurin noted that in her college alone, professors and instructors are constantly seeking grant money to fund their own research, and Darling added that the university is constantly investigating new avenues of private funding.

Dr. Patricia Bates, Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, said that even though LSUS has suffered tremendous cuts over the past several years, the university has a favorable reputation and opportunities for expansion

continue to be available.

"I received a call (last week) from LSUA and they expressed their interest in co-operating with us to develop a criminal justice program at England Air Force Base in Alexandria. They feel that we are one of the two best universities in Louisiana," Bates said. Despite the positive growth LSUS is experiencing, enrollment is down 4 per cent this semester and some students feel that the limited availability of university facilities may force them to investigate other options.

"I'm a mathematics and biology major and I need access to the labs to complete my coursework," said Sparkle Ensley. "I moved here from Dallas to go

to LSUS, so I'm already paying out-ofstate tuition. If the tuition continues to go up, I'll have to transfer. No doubt about it."

"We're waiting to find out how much city and parish support we can get, but I don't see the state remedying the problem anytime soon," Darling. said.